CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM RELEASE AS SANITIZED

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

ORIG: UNIT: EXT

DATE:

5 MAY 1954

NOTE BELOW

FROM:

DIRECTOR, CIA

CONF:

WH (PBS) (1-2)

INFO:

DC1 (3), D/DC1 (4), DD/P (L) (5), COP (6), WH (7-8), A/DD/P/P (9)

49462 (OUT 92225) 2003Z 6 MAY 54 INFO: SLINC, BENEV

RYBAT / JMSWAG

BACKGROUND: DURING PAST MONTH GUAT GOVT OVERTLY AND COVERTLY ELIMINATED ALL VESTIGE FREE RADIO. RADIO VOZ DE LA CAPITAL CEASED BROAD. CASTING AFTER PERSONNEL ATTACKED BY MASKED PERSONS. 5 APRIL. OSCAR CONDE. OPPOSITION RADIO COMMENTATOR, WAS ARRESTED ON RETURN FROM CARACAS. APRIL REPORTS FROM INSIDE GUAT INDICATED ALL ANTI-COMMIE PROGRAMS WERE CLANDES-TINELY JAMMED BY GUAT POLICE. ROBERTO VIZCAINO, OWNER OF RADIO CONTINENTAL, WHICH ALSO BROADCAST ANTI-COMMIE NEWS, WAS FORCED OUT OF GUAT AND STATION TURNED OVER TO COMMIES FOR USE. (DISPOSITION TO "TRIBUNA POPULAR" COMMIES HUMORED.) ON 21 APRIL. RADIO INTERNACIONAL WAS INVADED BY FIVE MASKED. ARMED MEN AND ALL STAFF WAS TIED. ONE BRUTALLY BEATEN AND ALL EQUIPMENT DESTROYED. STATION HAD BEEN BROADCASTING "ANTI-COMMIE HOUR" SPONSORED BY "STUDENT ANTI-COMMIE ASSN." LAST WEEK, BADIO TELEFUNKEN, CANCELED NEWS PHOGRAM ON GROUNDS PROGRAM CONTAINED "POLITICAL THOUGHTS". ON 1 MAY, GUAT GOVT OPENLY INFORMED ALL GUAT STATIONS THAT *** ARTICLE 37 OF CONGRESSIONAL

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DECREE 372 REQUIRES ALL PRIVATELY OWNED RADIO STATIONS TO RECORD AND SUBMIT ALL BROADCASTS RE NATIONAL OR INTERNATIONAL POLITICS TO GUAT MIN OF COMMUNICATIONS WITHIN 214 HOURS PRIOR TO BROADCAST. RECORDINGS BE REVIEWED BY GUAT MINISTER CHARNAUD MACDONALD AND BE RETURNED I IN "DUE COURSE".

- 2. BRIEF OF MAY IT SPECIAL TO NEW YORK TIMES BY PAUL KENNEDY FOLLOWS:
- GUAT GOVERNMENT HAS OFFICIALLY ACKNOWLEDGED EXISTENCE CLANDESTINE RADIO STATION BROADCASTING ANTI COMMUNIST MATERIAL. MATTER WAS BROUGHT TO ATTENTION OF GOVERNMENT BY COMMIE CONTROLLED CONFEDERACION GENERAL DE TRABAJADORES DE GUATEMALA WHICH CLAIMED IT HAD LEARNED STATION LOCATED IN SAN MARCOS DEPARTMENT OF GUATEMALA NEAR MEXICAN BORDER. POLICE, HOWEVER, SUBSEQUENTLY STATED BELIEF IT BEHIND HONDURAN BORDER, ACCORDING GOVERNMENT STATEMENT STATION CALLED "VOICE OF LIBERATION". THIS GIVEN IN CONTEXT OF REFERENCE TO MANY GUAT GOVT ACTS SUPPRESSING FREEDOM OF SPEECH, B.G., ACTIONS CENSORING AND SUPPRESSING RADIOS AND NEWSPAPERS.
- 30 REQUEST IMPLEMENT AND SUSTAIN ABOVE STORY. EMPHASIZE STATION CAME
 UP SOON AFTER REPRESSION FREE SPEECH BY GOVERNMENT AND SPECULATE IT MAY BE
 MANNED BY GUAT RADIO PERSONNEL WHO JOINED FORCES OPPOSING GOVERNMENT WHEN
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THEY RECEIVED ADVANCE WARNING OF GOVERNMENT REPRESSION.

4. PLAY FOLLOWING VARIATIONS. ORIGINAL INFORMATION RE LOCATION STATION WITHIN GUAT ALTERED BY POLICE FOR FOLLOWING REASONS. (1) THEY CANNOT STAND ADMIT STRENGTH OF OPPOSITION WITHIN COUNTRY. (2) GOVERNMENT DESIRES HOUNT PROVOCATION AGAINST HONDURAS.

5. SUGGEST LINC REQUIRE REGULAR REPORTS FROM PESUCCESS STATIONS IN ORDER ENABLE WH STATIONS SUSTAIN STORY. SINCE STORY WILL PROBABLY BE SELF GENERATING TO SOME EXTENT, WH STATIONS AUTHORIZED INTERPRET ALONG LINES

(1) STATION WITHIN GUAT. (2) REPRESENTS FIRST INDICATION STRENGTH OF GROUPS OPPOSING COMMUNIST CONTROLLED GOVERNMENT. (3) GOVERNMENT REPORTED PLANNING CONFISCATE PRIVATE RADIO RECEIVERS; PEOPLE BUYING UP EXAMINED RECEIVERS TO HAVE ONE IN HIDING.

6. REQUEST WEEKLY CABLE SUMMARIES INFO LINC DESCRIBING COVERAGE, INTERPRETATIONS, AND LOCAL REACTIONS.

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